

country well, and his contributions as a servant leader will be remembered in Alabama for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTER FOR
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

HON. SCOTT H. PETERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Center for Excellence in Education, a non-profit that sparks curiosity in high school and university students in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields, on 35 years of service to communities across the country. Because of CEE's collaborative work, students, teachers, researchers, and leaders are successfully paving the way for a new generation of STEM leaders.

San Diegans know the value of promoting STEM opportunities. Some of our region's biggest employers are biotech companies, looking to our students for their future researchers in part thanks to CEE's work and alumni. One of the largest economic drivers in our region is our innovation economy, which relies on a workforce versed in STEM fields. CEE sponsors free programs that connect students and their teachers to educational institutions, private foundations, corporations, and government agencies, to help prepare students across the country for these high-quality jobs. Teachers also have benefitted from CEE enrichment programs offered in California and other states across the country. This past year, UC San Diego—one of our burgeoning centers for innovation—hosted CEE's USA Biology Olympiad.

As San Diego and our country continue to invest in STEM education and encourage students to be curious and connect with professionals, CEE sets a vision for that future. Their commitment to 35 years of service across the country deserves praise and recognition, and I am proud to congratulate them on their successes.

HONORING PACIFIC GROVE MAYOR
BILL KAMPE

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retiring Mayor of Pacific Grove, Bill Kampe for his career in public service and his commitment to the people of the central coast of California. His professional accomplishments and leadership in the community have affected the lives of many.

Throughout his ten years in public office, Mayor Kampe served the City of Pacific Grove as a dynamic and effective leader. Mayor Kampe endeavored in his three terms as Mayor and two terms as a Councilmember to improve the city's infrastructure, allowing visitors and residents to continue enjoying the breathtaking vistas and charming storefronts. Mayor Kampe has been a strong advocate for ocean protection, including procuring the Lovers Point Watershed project to help pre-

serve our National Marine Sanctuary. Mayor Kampe also updated the city's Historic Preservation Ordinance to preserve city resources and maintain the city's historic properties.

In addition to his distinguished service as Mayor and Councilmember, Mayor Kampe holds several regional leadership roles that greatly benefit our community on the Central Coast. As President of the Monterey Peninsula Regional Water Authority, he has worked to help remediate water shortages on the Monterey Peninsula. Additionally, Mayor Kampe has dedicated his time to representing Pacific Grove on the Fort Ord Reuse Authority, an entity overseeing the development of the former military base Fort Ord. As a Navy veteran, Mayor Kampe has ensured that local resources remain accessible for local veterans and active-duty members of the military.

Throughout his career, Mayor Kampe prioritized the importance of giving back to our community's youth by hosting mock City Council meetings. Through this program, students are inspired to engage with current issues in Pacific Grove and learn the value of civic engagement. This spirit of service is evident in Mayor Kampe's service as a member of the Pacific Grove Beautification Committee and the Pacific Grove Rotary Club, and his volunteer contributions at countless town functions and events.

I thank Mayor Kampe for his service to his country, community, and the City of Pacific Grove. As he celebrates his retirement, I am proud to commend him on his invaluable work as a public servant for the past decade. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing former Mayor of Pacific Grove, Bill Kampe, on his career of service and congratulate him on a well-earned retirement.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF RONALD G.
RATLIFF, JR.

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Chief Ronald G. Ratliff, Jr., for his life of service to our nation in the United States Navy.

Chief Ratliff, coming from a family of coal miners in Elkhorn City, Kentucky, raised his right hand to enlist in the United States Navy in 1995. For the last 23 years, Ronnie has served with distinction—both here at home and around the world, charging forward as his career in the Navy legal field took him from Kentucky to Rhode Island and California to Guam, with deployments in between. Following the completion of Navy legal training in Rhode Island, his first assignment was in San Diego, where he provided critical legal assistance to our sailors and marines. He was then sent to Guam, where he handled all military justice matters for the command.

Chief Ratliff returned to San Diego to serve as a Discipline Officer and paralegal to the Commander of the Navy Region Southwest, before volunteering to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He served two additional deployments, and was promoted to Chief Petty Officer. Given his great success, Chief Ratliff was given the opportunity to attend the United States Coast Guard Chief

Petty Officer's Academy in California, representing the Navy and maintaining the strong relationship with the Coast Guard. He was then sent to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where he served as Staff Judge Advocate LCPO and Discipline Officer.

In 2014, Chief Ratliff was selected as the U.S. Navy's first enlisted member of its prestigious Defense Fellow program with the Office of Legislative Affairs. Chief Ratliff first served in the office of my friend from California, Congresswoman SUSAN DAVIS. During his time in Congresswoman DAVIS's office, Chief Ratliff provided critical counsel and assistance in helping Congresswoman DAVIS achieve her goals on the House Armed Services Committee. Upon completion of the fellowship in 2016, Chief Ratliff joined the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs as a Congressional Liaison Officer. In this role, Chief Ratliff has served as a critical resource, helping members of Congress and their staffs understand the critical issues facing the U.S. Navy and its sailors. He has also escorted countless Members of Congress, personal staff and professional staff on Congressional Delegations or Staff Delegations within the United States and around the world, advancing the mission of the U.S. Navy.

As a fellow Kentuckian, I could not be more proud of the career of Chief Ronnie Ratliff. It is honorable servicemen like Chief Ratliff who inspire us each and every day, and I wish him all the best as he enters into retirement. Congratulations, Chief Ratliff, and God speed.

HONORING PETE HOOD

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Pete Hood for his contribution to our state.

Pete has had a long and distinguished career working as a Human Resources executive for the United Parcel Service (UPS) in Indiana. Pete is set to retire at the end of this year. I would like to congratulate him on a long career and wish him all the best in his retirement.

Throughout Pete's career, he has been a champion for UPS's culture and values. Pete will consistently tell you that UPS is a unique company with its own way of doing things. Deliberately. Precisely. Efficiently. With Integrity. To me, Pete embodies those principles.

Over the years, Pete and I have become friends. Pete has taken me on tours of several different UPS facilities around the state, and he even convinced me to wear the iconic brown uniform and ride around in a delivery truck. I've enjoyed the time we have gotten to spend together and have appreciated his wise counsel and advice.

I would like to thank Pete for his friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for his family.